

Town of Upton
Council on Aging
Upton Center, November 7, 2011

The Upton Council on Aging's regular monthly meeting was called to order at 9:04. Those in attendance were: Betty Consigli, Jen DeLuca, Maria Griffin, Judith Katz, Gladys McKinstry, Bev Randazzo, Holly Whalen and Grace Wadsworth.

Before reading the minutes from October, Bev suggested we pause to remember Peggy and read a lovely poem. This was followed by the reading of the minutes of October 3, 2011 which was then accepted.

Jen led the meeting as Jamie was ill.

Recruitment of Members: Jen talked about the importance of recruiting new members as our numbers are greatly diminished. A discussion followed as to how to go about soliciting. Holly informed us that Jamie is looking into the guidelines for appointing a new chairperson with the passing of Peggy Libbey. It was stated that if the council does not have enough members, then it will not receive the formula grant monies.

Bus Hours: Starting this month, the bus hours are being increased by two hours. The bus will now be available from 9:00-2:00 to be more flexible in the afternoon hours. Monday, Wednesday and Friday the bus goes to the Milford area and on Thursday it goes to Worcester. The cost is \$4.00 per round trip, however, concessions have been made for individuals who are strapped for money.

Men's Club Supper: The supper is scheduled for November 18 which is a bit earlier this month due to Thanksgiving. Judith Katz volunteered to collect tickets.

Annual Thanksgiving Dinner: This free, annual event, sponsored by Senator Moore, will take place on November 21 at noon. Betty and Maria volunteered to help set up.

Breakfast for Seniors at Memorial School: Last year this very enjoyable event was held for the first time. The center is encouraging individuals to stop in and sign up even if one plans on driving so that the school knows how many individuals are coming. The bus can hold thirteen if one needs a ride.

Friends of Upton Elders Update: Gladys informed the group that even though last month's breakfast was poorly attended, the Friends have scheduled another breakfast to be held on December 12 from 8-10 a.m. and again in December. In order to get the word out, an article was printed in The Chronicle and the breakfast is being advertised on Milford's radio station WMRC as well as on Upton Cable. The group also wanted to advertise on the large sign outside of Town Hall, but were told they couldn't. A suggestion was made to place a sign in the Post Office, if possible. Families are most welcome to attend. Jen thought that perhaps a time change would increase the

attendance. It was stated that 8-11 instead of 8-10 wouldn't make a difference. Even If one arrives at 9:30, one will get served. Gladys stated that when she joined the Friends there were 20-25 active members and now there are only five, which makes fund raising rather difficult. The Council on Aging depends on the monies the Friends provide, so it is imperative the Friends continue. In addition to the breakfasts, the Friends are planning a bake sale to raise additional funds.

Jen went through the Dates to Remember. Betty reported that last month's ceramics painting class was a lot of fun and went well. It was suggested that a small cost be charged to individuals to offset the \$12.00/ person charge which comes out of grant money.

Bingo Update: Gladys reported that she is aware that there is a big problem with the bingo clean-up. As soon as many people are finished, they just pick up and leave without clearing their area. Bev said that she will make an announcement about cleaning the tables and floors in order to assure the continuation of this activity. Jen will also make an announcement. An additional problem is that Grace will be away for five weeks leaving too few people to run Bingo.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Judith Katz, Acting Secretary